

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 DODE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01

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R 012015Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL CURACAO

TO COMSC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2008

DFQAO CARIBBEAN ARUBA NA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS CURACAO 0514

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: N/A

SUBJECT: PORT VISIT CLEARANCES FOR USNS SHIPS

THE HAGUE FOR USDAO

REFERENCE: THE HAGUE 051601Z SEP 74

1. GNA HAS HISTORICALLY BEEN COOPERATIVE IN ALLOWING VISITS BY PUBLIC VESSELS. AS EVIDENCE, GNA DOES NOT RPT NOT REQUIRE PREVIOUS DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE FOR USNS VESSELS, BUT CONSIDERS THEM AS ROUTINE MERCHANT SHIPS THUS ELIMINATING TIME CONSUMING PROCESS OF CONSULTATION BETWEEN GON AND GNA WHICH CAN DELAY SCHEDULE OF SHIP.

2. GNA CUSTOMS HAS OPTION TO REQUIRE DECLARATION AND TO SEARCH VESSELS. OCCASIONALLY MASTERS OF USNS VESSELS HAVE BALKED AT THIS REQUIREMENT, NO PURPOSE IS SERVED BY REFUSING THIS GNA REQUEST. ON THE CONTRARY, IF CERTAIN SHIPS CONTINUALLY RAISE PROBLEMS IT COULD CAUSE GNA TO REQUIRE LENGTHY AND CUMBERSOME CLEARANCE PROCESS.

3. CONGEN HAS ASKED GNA CUSTOMS IF THEY ARE WILLING TO WAIVE GENERAL DECLARATION FORM FOR USNS SHIPS, A PRACTICE THAT HAS BEEN IN EFFECT IN THE PAST. CUSTOMS APPEARS WILLING

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BUT HAS NOT YET GIVEN FINAL APPROVAL. HOWEVER, EVEN IF THIS

REQUIREMENT IS GENERALLY WAIVED, CUSTOMS WILL STILL RETAIN
RIGHT TO DEMAND IT, OR OTHER DECLARATIONS IN SPECIFIC
INSTANCES. CONGEN WILL CONTINUE ITS ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE
GNA CUSTOMS TO WAIVE DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS, BUT MASTERS
OF USNS VESSELS SHOULD BE INFORMED OF LOCAL SITUATION AND
INSTRUCTED TO COMPLY WITH REQUESTS OF CUSTOMS OFFICIALS.

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